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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/627,625	07/28/2003	Pieter Maarten Van Gent	2001-1274	4335

466 7590 02/22/2007
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EXAMINER

BELL, BRUCE F

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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1746

SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
3 MONTHS	02/22/2007	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/627,625	Applicant(s) VAN GENT, PIETER MAARTEN	
	Examiner Bruce F. Bell	Art Unit 1746	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 11 and 12 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8, 13, 14 and 17-20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 15, 16 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

2. Claims 1-9, 13, 14, 17-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claims 1-9, 13, 14, 17-20 are vague and indefinite with respect the instant claims not setting forth that the frame include electrical contacts to feed electric current through the sheet material. This appears to be a crucial aspect of the instant invention since without it, the frame could not be used in an electrochemical treatment as set forth in applicants specification, since with out the electrical contacts on the frame, the frame would not be capable of performing such a function. Applicants instant specification does not disclose any other use for the frame other than in an electrochemical treatment and therefore, this electrical contacts are a critical and essential part of the instant invention as needs to be set forth in the independent claims.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

4. Claim 1-8, 13,17, 19 and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Siegel (3826483).

Siegel discloses a planar work holder supported from the rear by a support bar with the work piece being retained between a cross bar and two forwardly extending arms. A tension bar is adjacent one arm secured thereto by pins in a way which allows the tension bar limited movement toward or away from the arm. Springs and a multiple position detent cooperate to lock tension bar close to the arm so that a work piece can be place between the tension bar and arm. Release of the detent to a second position permits the springs to bias tension bar away from arm so as to grip the work piece between the arm and the tension bar with the force exerted by the springs. See abstract. A work holder 10 is disclosed that comprises a cross bar 12 attached to a support rod 16, a central work support 14 is secured to the support rod 16 and the cross bar 12 has an angular cross section. On the left side of the work holder 10 is a universal arm 20 and on the right side is a tension arm assembly 22, both of which are slidably disposed on the cross bar 12. The work piece 24 seats in V-shaped slots 30, 32, 34 provided for this purpose, respectively, on center support 14, on universal arm 20 and on tension arm 42 forming part of the tension arm assembly 22. The initial size adjustment of the holder 10 to the work piece 24 is made by sliding universal arm 20 and tension arm assembly 22 along the length of cross bar 12, the base 39 of universal arm 20 having a square aperture which forms part of the tension arm assembly 22. Aperture 36 is shaped and sized to easily fit cross bar 23. Knob 38 threads into base 39 of universal arm 20 at a corner of the aperture 36 and cross bar 12 and acts to lock arm 20 in place on cross bar 12 at the proper spacing for the particular work piece to be mounted on holder 10. The tension arm assembly 22 includes universal arm 40 and

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tension bar 42, which are secured together by a plurality of pins 44. The pins are fixed to tension bar 42 but pass through oversized holes in the universal arm 40, being thereby free to reciprocate relative to arm 40 and the inability of their stop members to enter the holes in universal arm 40. Compression springs 46 on pins 44 bias tension bar 42 away from arm 40. Other spring biasing means may of course be used. A two position detent or cam 48 is associated with the center pin 45 to lock the tension arm assembly 22 in a spring compressed position when cross pin 52 rides to the upper level 54, one at each end of detent 48. The other position permitted by detent 48 is the extended or spring biased position which occurs when the cross pin 52 seats in the base of v-notch 56 at the center of detent 48. The pin is retained in the v-notch by compression springs 46. See col. 1, line 48 – col. 2, line 38 and figures 1-7.

The prior art of Siegel anticipates the applicants instant invention as set forth above with respect to the instant claims as presented.

Allowable Subject Matter

5. Claims 11 and 12 are allowed.
6. Claims 10, 15, 16, 18 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.
7. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: The prior art of record fails to teach and/or suggest the electrical contacts on the frame which are used for applying a voltage to the frame during the electrochemical

treatment. The prior art further fails to teach the moveable leg having rollers that are rolled relative to the beam.

Response to Arguments

8. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-12 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

9. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

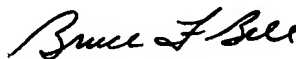
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Bruce F. Bell whose telephone number is 571-272-1296. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 6:30 AM - 3:00 PM.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Michael Barr can be reached on 571 272-1414. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

BFB
February 20, 2007


Bruce F. Bell
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 1746